

## PATENT

**REMARKS****Discussion of Claims**

In the Advisory Action, claims 2, 3, 5, 15-17, 19, and 20 are rejected over the prior art of record.

In the Advisory Action, claims 6, 8, 12, and 13 are allowed over the prior art of record.

In the Advisory Action, claim 18 is objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims

In response thereto, claims 2, 3, 5, 9-11, 15-17, and 19 have been cancelled and claim 18 has been amended. Accordingly, claims 6, 8, 12, 13, 18, and 20 are now pending. Following is a discussion of the patentability of each of the pending claims.

**Interview Summary Record**

Counsel thanks Examiner Jastrzab for the courtesy extended during the telephone conversation on February 2, 2005. Examiner Jastrzab agreed that pending claim 18 should be objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

**Independent Claim 6 and 8, 12, and 13**

Claims 6, 8, 12, and 13 are allowed over the prior art of record.

**Independent Claim 18**

In the Advisory Action, claim 18 is objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. In response, claim 18

## PATENT

has been rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of base claim 15 and intervening claims 16 and 17. It is respectfully submitted that amended claim 18 is in condition for allowance.

Dependent Claim 20

Claim 20 depends from claim 18 and is similarly patentable. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that claim 20 is in condition for allowance.

CONCLUSION

In light of the above claim amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the application is in condition for allowance, and an early notice of allowance is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

2/2/05  
Date

Ronald S. Tamura  
Ronald S. Tamura, Reg. No. 43,179  
Patent Attorney for Applicant

**CUSTOMER NUMBER: 36802**